

From: Andy Gunther [mailto:gunther@cemar.org]

Sent: Tuesday, January 01, 2008 8:55 AM

To: MLPAComments

Cc: Garrison, Karen; sandyb@mcn.org

Subject: Comments on MLPA proposals for North Central Coast

Please accept this email as public comment on the proposed MLPA arrays for the North Central Coast.

I support strongly MLPA Proposal #1 (EC) that includes a large protected area along the Sea Ranch coast. However, the existing proposal's northern boundary should be altered from 38.42 N to 38.44 N. This alteration incorporates two key features into the proposed array. First, there is an important harbor seal rookery at Tidepool Beach which should be included in the proposal. This rookery, well monitored and supported by local residents and The Sea Ranch Association, is used by harbor seals annually and is the largest rookery in the area. It is an extremely valuable educational opportunity as well, as hundreds of visitors interact each year with volunteer docents during the pupping season.

Second, the extension of the northern border from 38.42 N to 38.44 N will also include within the boundaries of the MPLA a marine reserve already designated by The Sea Ranch Association. It only seems logical to include within the MLPA array a reserve that is already designated by local landowners.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Andy Gunther

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